

REMARKS

This submission is in response to the Final Office Action dated July 14, 2003.

Reconsideration of the above identified application, in view of the above amendments and the following remarks, is respectfully requested.

Claims 2-9 are currently pending with claim 9 having been added by way of this Amendment.

Claims 2-8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. Applicants have amended claim 4 and as a result, this rejection is now moot.

Claims 2-8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Jin et al.

Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection for the following reasons.

Claim 9 has been introduced as an independent claim. Claim 9 contains the original claim 1 language with the limitation that both the first and second members are prestressed in both directions of operation of the compliant link. Applicants respectfully submit that none of the cited art, including the Jin et al. reference, discloses or suggests such a feature and therefore, the previous grounds of rejection should be withdrawn.

Claims 2-8 should be allowed as depending from what should be an allowed independent claim 9.

At this time, allowance of claims 2-9 is earnestly solicited.

